

RESOLUTION OF THE WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE OF THE FORT APACHE INDIAN RESERVATION

(Secretarial Election to Amend Constitutional Requirements for Membership Eligibility)

- WHEREAS, pursuant to Article IV, Section 1(a) and 1(s) of the Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, *inter alia*, the Tribal Council has the authority to represent the Tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe; and
- WHEREAS, Article II, Section 1(b) of the Constitution provides that in order to become an eligible member of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, a member must have a minimum of one-half (1/2) degree or more of Indian blood of a federally recognized Indian tribe or tribes and a minimum of one-fourth (1/4) degree White Mountain Apache blood; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is aware of recurring issues concerning blood quantum requirements that deny membership to numerous residents of the Fort Apache Reservation and members of the Tribe should decide whether the Constitution should be amended to lower the blood quantum requirement for future members; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council believes it is in the best interest of the Tribe to authorize a Secretarial Election, as required by the Constitution, to decide if Tribal Members support amending the blood quantum requirement of the Constitution to read as is, or lowered to one-eighth (1/8) or one-fourth (1/4) White Mountain Apache blood only.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby authorizes a Secretarial Election to take place within thirty (30) days or as soon as possible to decide if the blood quantum provision of Article II, Section 1(b) of the Constitution shall be amended to a blood quantum of one-eighth (1/8) or one-fourth (1/4) White Mountain Apache blood only or not at all.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the event this Resolution conflicts with prior Resolutions or Policies, this Resolution shall govern.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Chairman, or in his absence, the Vice Chairwoman, is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was on May 11, 2009 duly adopted by a vote of EIGHT for and ZERO against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to the authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (s), (t) and (u) of the Constitution of the Tribe, ratified September 30, 1993, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on November 12, 1993, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

Ronnie Lupe, Chairman of the Tribal Council

Cyndy R. Harvey, Secretary of the Tribal Council